

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**TRAVERSAL AND REQUEST FOR  
RECONSIDERATION OF RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Dear Sir:

Applicants, in the above-identified patent application, through their undersigned attorneys, hereby traverse and request reconsideration of the requirement for restriction in the November 5, 2002 Official Action (Paper No. 9), for the reasons set forth in the following remarks.

**REMARKS**

At the outset, it is noted that a shortened statutory period of one (1) month was set in the November 5, 2002 Official Action. The initial due date for response, therefore, was December 5, 2002. A petition for a one (1) month extension of the response period is presented with this traversal and request for reconsideration of restriction requirement, which is being filed within the one (1) month extension period.

The present application was filed under 35 U.S.C. §371 as a U.S. National Stage application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty. As such, restriction practice is determined under unity of invention principles as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.475 and 1.499. See §1895.01, subparagraph D of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.).